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CONSTITUTION CANONS AND RULES OF ORDER



A. D. 1907





SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER

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CONSTITUTION, CANONS AND RULES OF ORDER



Synod of the Diocese of
New Westminster



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Constitution

—OF THE—

Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen:

WHEREAS the members of the Church of England in the Diocese of New Westminster have been associated together as a branch of the said Church, and a Synod has been constituted for the government of the same, for the ordering of the affairs, the arrangement of the property, the promotion of the discipline of the members thereof, and the inculcation and maintenance of sound doctrine and true religion in the Diocese, to the glory of Almighty God, and the edifying and increase of the Church of Christ;

AND WHEREAS the Bishop, Clergy and Laity of the Church in the said Diocese met in conference to determine the principles upon which such association should be based, and decided on the Constitution, and defined the powers of this Synod;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the said Bishop, Clergy and Laity, do solemnly declare and resolve as follows:—

ARTICLE I.

We hold and maintain the Doctrine and Sacraments of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded in His Holy Word, and as the Church of England hath received and explained the same in "The Book of Common Prayer, and Administration of the Sacraments, and other Rites and Ceremonies of the

"Church, according to the Use of the Church of England, "together with the Psalter on Psalms of David, pointed as they "are to be said or sung in Churches, and the Form and Manner "of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests "and Deacons," and in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion. And the Synod hereinbefore constituted shall hold and maintain the same, and shall have no power to make any alteration in the Authorized Version of Scripture or in the above named Formularies of the Church.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Synod from accepting any alteration of the above named Formularies and Version of th Bible as may, from time to time, be adopted by the Church of England.

Provided also that it shall be lawful for the Synod to frame new, and to modify existing, rules (not affecting doctrine), with the view of meeting circumstances peculiar to this Diocese.

Provided also that it shall be lawful for the Bishop, from time to time, to authorize and order to be used any special form of Prayer or Thanksgiving, as he shall deem expedient and edifying.

ARTICLE II.

Name and Composition of Synod.

1. The Synod shall be called "THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER.

2. The Synod shall consist of the Bishop, the Licensed Clergy of the Diocese, the Diocesan Officials,—viz., the Chancellor, the Registrar, the Legal Assessor, the Diocesan Treasurer, elected by the Synod, who shall sit *ex-officio*,—and the Lay Delegates qualified and elected as hereinafter provided. The Diocesan officials as such shall in all Synod proceedings have the same rights of speaking and voting as Lay Delegates.

ARTICLE III.

Lay Delegates.

1. The Lay Delegates shall be male communicants of at least one year's standing, and of, at least, the age of twenty-one years. Two, at least, of the Delegates, where three are appointed and one where two are appointed; and one where only one is appointed, shall be on the elected roll of the Parish appointing them.

Provided that it shall be competent for the Synod to deal specially with cases where there have not been sufficient opportunities of Communion during the year.

2. The number of Lay Delegates from each Parish or Missionary District shall not be more than three. Where there is a Mission Church, served by a Curate from the Mother Church, there shall be one Lay Delegate; should, however, the registered voters of such Mission Church exceed fifty, there may be two, should they exceed one hundred, there may be three lay delegates.

3. All *male* baptised persons of the age of eighteen years or over, having been accustomed attendants at the Church or one of the Churches of the Parish, for which the election is held, for a period of not less than three months previous to the election, shall be qualified to vote for Lay Delegates, on making and subscribing the Declarations hereinafter provided. But no person shall be on the Electoral Roll of two separate churches at one and the same time.

4. The election of Lay Delegates shall be held annually at the Easter Vestry meeting; at which the Incumbent shall preside, or in his absence some person chosen by the electors present from their own number. In case of more than the requisite number of candidates being nominated, the vote shall be by ballot.

In case of vacancy occurring in the representation of any Parish by death, resignation or refusal to act, such vacancy shall be filled at a special Vestry meeting called for the pur-

pose to be held within thirty days from the occurrence of such vacancy.

5. The Lay Delegates shall be provided with a Certificate (as hereinafter provided) of their due election, signed by the person who presides, whose duty it shall also be to forward a copy of the Certificate to the Secretaries of the Synod within ten days of the date of the election.

6. In the event of any person being elected to represent more than one Parish Missionary District, or Mission Church, he shall, on notification by the Secretaries of the Synod, declare in writing for which he decides to sit and vote, and the Secretaries shall notify the Incumbent or Churchwarden of the other place or places to proceed with a new election.

7. The Lay Delegates' term of office shall continue till their successors are elected.

ARTICLE IV.

Declaration to Be Subscribed by All.

The Declaration of Submission to the Canons of the Synod as contained in the Schedule, shall be subscribed by all Clergy, Lay Delegates and Office Bearers, and the said Declaration of Submission, as well as the Declaration of Electors, as contained in the Schedule, shall be subscribed by all Electors.

ARTICLE V.

Meetings of Synod.

1. The Synod shall meet yearly at such time and place as the Bishop shall direct, but, for the purpose of electing a Bishop, in case of a vacancy of the See, a special meeting shall be summoned by the Executive Committee, and notice in both cases shall be given by the Secretaries, to be mailed at least thirty days previously.

2. When the Bishop is present, he shall preside at all meetings of the Synod; when the Bishop is not present, his Commissary shall preside in his place.

3. A quorum for the transaction of the business of the Synod shall consist of the Bishop (or his Commissary), and not less than one-fourth of the Licensed Clergy of the Diocese, and not less than one-fourth of the Lay Delegates entitled to take part in the proceedings, but any less number may adjourn from day to day until a quorum can be obtained.

4. In case of the absence of the Bishop, no resolution, elections excepted, passed at the Synod meeting, shall be deemed binding until assented to by the Bishop in writing, under his seal.

ARTICLE VI.

Elections.

1. The Synod at its first session after each Annual Election shall, after the reading of the minutes, elect one Clerical and one Lay Secretary, to hold office for a year, or during the pleasure of the Synod. The Clerical Secretary shall be elected by the Clergy, and the Lay Secretary by the Lay Delegates.

2. The Synod shall also at its first session appoint the time for the elections of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer, and the Auditor. The Treasurer and the Auditor shall be elected by ballot of the whole Synod collectively. Neither the Treasurer, nor the Auditor, need be Lay Delegates from any Parish.

ARTICLE VII.

Duties of Officers.—Secretaries.

1. The duties of the Secretaries shall be:—To keep regular minutes of the proceedings and attest all public acts of the Synod; to deliver over all records and documents to their successors, and to do all work usually performed by Secretaries.

Treasurer.

2. The duties of the Treasurer shall be:—To receive, col-

lect, and keep all moneys belonging to the Synod, and any trust or special fund in its holding, and to pay all current expenses of the Synod, subject to such regulations as the Executive Committee may from time to time provide; to take and preserve vouchers for all payments he shall make; to keep accurate books of account of all receipts and disbursements; to make such reports and disbursements as may be ordered by the Executive Committee; and to prepare a statement for the annual meeting of the Synod, shewing the receipts and expenditure of the previous year up to the 31st day of December, and the financial condition of the Synod.

He shall give a bond in such security as shall be satisfactory to the Executive Committee.

Auditor.

3. The duties of the Auditor shall be:—To audit the accounts of the Synod, as submitted by the Treasurer, and to lay a report of the same before the Synod on the first day of its next session; such audit to be up to the 31st day of December of each year.

Registrar.

4. The duties of the Registrar shall be:—To receive and preserve in safe keeping the Seal of the Synod, and all such documents and papers as the Synod or Executive Committee shall from time to time entrust to him, subject to the direction from time to time of the Synod or Executive Committee; to procure a proper book of record, and to enter therein all such matters as the Synod or Executive Committee shall direct; and to perform all such duties as are required of him by canon X. (on Discipline).

ARTICLE VIII.

Executive Committee.—Duties and Powers.

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Bishop (or his Commissary), the Archdeacon (or Archdeacons) of the Diocese, the Chancellor, the Registrar, the two Secretaries

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of the Synod, the Treasurer, and one Clergyman and one Layman appointed by the Bishop, together with four Clergymen and four Laymen, elected by ballot. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancies occurring amongst the elective members during their term of office, and also vacancies in the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor; the Bishop shall have the right to fill by appointment any vacancy which may occur amongst those nominated by him.

The Bishop (or his Commissary), with three Clergymen and three Laymen, shall form a quorum of the Executive Committee.

2. The powers of the Executive Committee shall be between the different meetings of Synod, to perform all such acts as are provided for them to do by this Constitution, and by the Canons hereinafter enacted; to act as the agents of the Synod in the transaction of such business as it shall be competent for them to do without an express resolution of Synod, such as the collection of moneys, rents and dividends, and disbursing the same; and shall have power to affix the seal of the Synod when legally required. They shall make to each annual Synod a report upon such work so done, and shall have power to appoint all necessary officers.

ARTICLE IX.

Voting in Synod.

All elections shall be as hereinbefore provided. No act or resolution of the Synod (elections excepted) shall become valid without the concurrence of the Bishop and a majority of the Clergy and Laity present; provided that ordinarily the votes of the Whole Synod shall be taken collectively, but that at the desire of the Bishop, or at the request of three other members of the Synod, the votes of both orders shall be taken separately, and in this case a majority of each order shall be required.

ARTICLE X.**Alterations in Constitution, Canons, Etc.**

Any alteration of the Constitution, or of any of the Canons passed by the Synod, or any additions thereto, shall come into operation as soon as passed by a two-thirds majority of the Synod voting collectively or of each order (as provided in Article IX.), and approved by the Bishop; provided that the Bishop may, if he please, withhold his consent till the next Synod, and then either assent to, or reject it, or bring it up again for reconsideration by the Synod.

SCHEDULE.**Declaration of Submission.**

I, A. B., do willingly subscribe to and declare I assent to and abide by the Constitution, Rules of Order and Canons which have been, or shall be from time to time, passed by the Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster.

(Signed.)

Witness.

Date

Declaration of Electors.

I, A. B., solemnly declare that I belong to the Church of England, and to no other religious denomination; that I am an accustomed attendant of Church, and qualified to vote as an Elector, according to the provisions of the Constitution of the Synod of this Diocese.

(Signed.)

Witness.

Date

Certificate of Election.

This is to certify that at a meeting of the Electors of the
 Parish or Mission District of
 held on A. D., 19.... the follow-
 ing persons, duly qualified, were elected Lay Delegates to the
 Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster:—

Names

Addresses

.....
.....
.....

Signed

Presiding Officer of the Election.

Canons.

CANON I.

Election of a Bishop.

WHEREAS it is desirable to provide for the succession of the Episcopate in the Diocese of New Westminster; and whereas, in accordance with ancient usage the election should be made by the Synod of the Diocese; be it enacted that:—

1. Within thirty days of the vacancy of the See the Executive Committee shall summon the Synod for the election of a Bishop.

2. Such meeting shall be held at the time and place that the Executive Committee shall appoint within three months after the date of the summons.

3. The Archdeacon of Columbia, or in his absence, or inability to attend, the Senior Priest of the Executive Committee, shall be Chairman of the meeting.

The word "Senior" shall refer to the Priest whose name has been longest on the roll of Licensed Clergy of the Diocese.

4. On the day, and at the place appointed, after the celebration of the Holy Communion, the Chairman shall proceed to organize the meeting in accordance with the rules of order.

5. If, on calling of the roll, it shall be found that there are at least one-half of the members of each order present, it shall be competent for any Clerical member to nominate any

eligible person for the office of Bishop; after which nomination the Lay Delegates shall form themselves into a separate chamber for the purpose of voting, but if it shall be found that there are fewer than one-half of the members of either order present the meeting shall adjourn to any day within the week, and from time to time until the required number shall assemble.

6. No person shall be held to be duly elected Bishop unless he shall have obtained in each chamber a majority of the votes actually given. All voting shall be by ballot.

7. It shall be competent for the two chambers to re-assemble in Synod at any time for the purpose of receiving additional nominations, or for consultation.

8. If there be no election before the next Easter after the vacancy, the Synod shall be summoned as provided in Section 1 of this Canon, within forty days after Easter.

9. In no case shall the person elected receive consecration until his election shall have been confirmed by a majority of the House of Bishops of the General Synod of Canada. And if the election be not confirmed as aforesaid within three months, the same shall be considered null and void; and thereupon a new election shall be held in accordance with the provisions of this Canon. Provided that when an Ecclesiastical Province is formed in British Columbia it shall suffice that the election be confirmed by a majority of the Bishops of the said Province.

10. The person elected to the office of Bishop shall, previous to his Consecration, promise obedience to the Constitutions and Canons of this Diocese, by subscribing the Declaration of Submission provided in the Constitution of the Synod, which declaration, signed by the Bishop-elect, shall be filed with the Registrar of the Diocese.

11. All arrangements in connection with the Consecration of the Bishop-elect shall be left in the hands of the Primate of all Canada, until such time as an Ecclesiastical Province be formed in British Columbia.

CANON II.

Definitions of Clergy and Parishes.

1. The word "Parish" shall be held to signify an Ecclesiastical District wherein is a Church set apart by consecration or dedication for the worship of Almighty God, and served by a resident clergyman holding the license of the Bishop of New Westminster.

2. A "Missionary District" is an Ecclesiastical District, served by a licensed Clergyman, which has not been defined as a Parish.

3. A Parish which contributes the whole of the stipend of its Clergymen, and provides him with a suitable residence, shall be classed as a Rectory, and its incumbent shall be entitled to be styled Rector.

4. In Parishes where the stipend is derived wholly or in part from the funds of the Diocese, the incumbent shall be styled Vicar, and the Parish shall be classed as a Vicarage.

5. The incumbent of a Missionary District shall be styled a Missionary.

6. When a Priest is placed in charge of a Church and defined Parish, he shall be formally instituted into the same.

7. In every Parish the persons qualified as electors under Article III. of the Constitution, and none other shall constitute the Vestry of the Parish.

CANON III.

Boundaries of the Parish.

1. The boundaries of every Parish shall be recorded in a book for the purpose by the Registrar of the Diocese.

2. The Executive Committee shall have power at all times to define and alter the boundaries of existing Parishes and Districts, to found new ones, and to determine the boundaries and titles thereof, provided that in all cases they shall consult with and obtain the consent of the Clergy and Vestries

of the Parishes and Districts concerned, and that in the event of their failing to obtain such consent, the question shall be finally decided by the Synod.

CANON IV.

Church Officers.

1. On Monday in Easter week, or within thirty days thereafter, the annual Easter Vestry meeting shall be held in every Parish. Notice in writing of such meeting, signed by the Incumbent, or Churchwarden, or either of them, shall have been posted at least eight days previously upon the door of the Church, or place where Divine Service is usually held.

2. At this meeting the Incumbent shall preside, or in his absence some one elected by the meeting from among its members, and the following shall be the order of business:—

- (a) Reading and confirming of minutes of previous meeting.
- (b) Receiving and consideration of reports.
- (c) Election of Lay Delegates to Synod.
- (d) Appointment and Election of two Churchwardens and other officers. . . .
- (e) Deferred and general business, correspondence, etc.

3. The Lay Delegates to the Synod shall be elected in accordance with Article III. of the Constitution.

4. Of the Churchwardens, one shall be appointed by the Incumbent, and the other shall be elected by the Vestry; or both may be elected by the Vestry, if the Incumbent so prefer. Only communicants are eligible for the office of Churchwarden, but the Bishop may sanction the appointment of other than communicants for special causes which he may deem sufficient.

5. If any Cure be vacant at the time fixed for the appointment or election of Churchwardens, one shall be appointed by the Bishop or his Commissary and the other shall be elected

by the Vestry. The Churchwarden so appointed shall remain in office until an Incumbent has been appointed to the Cure, and has nominated a Churchwarden.

6. If the office of an elected Churchwarden shall become vacant by death, resignation, removal or otherwise, a meeting of the Vestry shall be called, as soon as conveniently may be, to elect a successor to the vacant office, and in like manner the Incumbent shall, at once, fill any vacancy so occurring in the office of the Churchwarden appointed by him.

7. The Sidesmen, who shall number not more than six, shall be elected by the Vestry, and their duties shall be to assist the Wardens whenever called by them to do so, and to act as members of the Church Committee of the Parish, which said Committee shall consist of the Incumbent, Churchwardens and Sidesmen.

8. The Churchwardens and Sidesmen shall continue in office until their successors are appointed.

9. The duties of the Churchwardens are:—

- (a) To take care that the Church is furnished with all things necessary for the due performance of Divine Service and Administration of the Sacraments.
- (b) To procure all necessary books, and to provide a strong box, or other secure place, where the books shall be kept.
- (c) To take care that the fabric of the Church, Parsonage, School and other Church buildings, together with the grounds and fences, are kept in proper repair.
- (d) To see that the Church and all things therein be decent and of orderly sort, and free from dust or anything unseemly.
- (e) To collect the alms of the congregation at the usual time, which alms are to be disposed of by the Incumbent and Churchwardens jointly, or, if they disagree, by the Bishop.

- (f) To maintain order during Divine Service.
- (g) To keep the Church and all other Church buildings properly insured.
- (h) To keep a full account of all Church goods and property.
- (i) To keep proper account of all funds of the Parish, and to see that the stipend of the Incumbent is properly collected and paid.
- (j) To take charge of, and look after the Parsonage during the vacancy of the Cure.
- (k) To make an Annual Report and Financial Statement at the Easter Vestry meeting, and to hand over to their successors in office any balance of cash, and all Church property.

10. It shall be competent for the congregation of any Church of a Parish or Missionary District to appoint annually, at Easter-tide, two Churchwardens, and two Sidesmen, whose duties shall be the same as in this Canon, but shall be confined to the Church or place of worship for which they shall be elected.

11. Divine Service shall be performed at usual and convenient times. The Incumbent has the discretionary power of fixing these times, under the control of the Bishop, on being appealed to by the Churchwardens. The Incumbent has the entire direction of the playing and singing in the Church.

12. The Church bells are not to be rung without a good cause, nor without the joint consent of the Incumbent and the Churchwardens.

13. No alterations shall be made in the structure or decoration of the Church without the joint consent of the Incumbent and Churchwardens. In case of disagreement the matter shall be referred to the Bishop, whose decision shall be final.

14. List of necessary Church furniture for the due performance of Divine Service, and Administration of the Sacraments:—

A large Bible of the Authorized Version; a large Book of Common Prayer; a Book of Services or Prayer Book for the Holy Table; a Baptismal Font; a proper Table for the Celebration of the Holy Communion; a Cover to the Holy Table of silk or other decent stuff; the usual Altar Linen for the Administration of the Holy Communion; proper vessels for the due Administration of the Holy Communion; a decent Vessel, or Alms Dish;; a Reading Desk, and Pulpit, Lectern and Fold stool. a decent Surplice for the Minister.

15. List of necessary Books:—

Register Books for Baptisms, Confirmations, Banns, Marriages and Burials; a Book for the Registry of the services; a Book for entering the minutes of Committee Meetings; Books for the Accounts of the Churchwardens; a Register of the Electors of the Parish or Church.

CANON V.

Finance.

1. Subject to instructions from the Synod, the Executive Committee shall have the control, management and administration of all the funds of the Synod.

2. The Executive Committee shall assess each Parish and Missionary District—in the basis of its annual income for general Church purposes—for the necessary expenses of the Synod. Each Parish and Missionary District shall pay its assessment on or before the first day of meeting of the Synod.

3. All grants in aid of stipends shall be subject to revisions yearly, but no reduction or grant shall be made without six months notice thereof.

4. No grant shall be made for any fund for building of Church or Parsonage or for any other parochial purpose, except to meet a certain contribution to be raised by the Parish applying for a grant, which contribution shall be defined by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Church Committee, and the grant in aid of the building of any Church or Parsonage shall not be paid until the land upon which such Church or Parsonage is to be built has been conveyed in fee simple, free from all encumbrances, to the Synod, or to the Parish if incorporated.

5. The collections in each Church on Easter Day shall be paid to the Incumbent for his own use.

The following Canonical Collections are ordered by the Synod:—1. Diocesan Missions; for which an annual appeal shall be made on some Sunday by the Archdeacon of Columbia, or some person under his direction. 2. On Good Friday; Missions to the Jews. 3. On Epiphany; on the Sunday following the Epiphany appeal, for Canadian Foreign Missions. 4. On the Sunday following the reading of the Ascensiontide appeal, for Canadian Home Missions. (But the time and place for raising the apportionment for M. S. C. C. may be left to the discretion of the Incumbent; provided that the information contained in the Epiphany and Ascensiontide appeals be brought before the Congregations at those sessions). 5. On S. Andrew's Day and the Sunday following, collections to be divided: One-half to S. P. G. and the remainder to S. P. C. K., or the Canadian Church Bible and Prayer Book Society; but at the discretion of the Incumbent and Church Committee one annual personal appeal may be made by any approved method to cover all these objects and shall be apportioned by the Incumbent and Church Committee; provided that the Incumbent of such parish shall bring the object of these collections before his congregation or congregations on above-mentioned days. All moneys shall be paid over to the Diocesan Treasurer one month before the end of the financial year.

In the investing of trust funds, the Executive Committee shall be governed by the following rules:—

- (a) No money shall be loaned on any unimproved real estate, nor shall unimproved real estate be purchased as an investment of trust funds.
- (b) No money shall be loaned on any security until the same shall have been submitted to the Executive Committee at a regularly constituted meeting, and approved by such meeting.
- (c) Not more than fifty per cent. of the appraised value of a property shall be loaned upon it, such valuation to be made in writing by two competent appraisers, and deposited with and retained by the Executive Committee.
- (d) No loan shall be made upon improved property, unless a Policy of Insurance against fire, for the full amount of the loan, can be procured upon the buildings on the property, such policy to be made payable to the Synod as mortgagee.
- (e) No money shall be loaned on a second or any subsequent mortgage upon any pretence whatever.
- (f) Funds awaiting investment shall be deposited in a Savings Bank.

CANON VI.

Parsonage Houses.

1. It shall be the duty of every Parish to provide a suitable residence for the Incumbent.
2. On the appointment of a new Incumbent the parsonage house, outbuildings, fences and gates shall be put in his possession, in good and substantial repair, as certified by the Archdeacon or other Commissary of the Bishop.
3. During the occupancy of any parsonage house, it shall be the duty of the Incumbent to keep it and all the outbuildings, fences and gates in efficient order and repair, (ordinary

wear and tear, and accidents by fire, flood or tempest, excepted); provided that the expense of any improvements or repairs, such as new roofing, external or internal painting, new fencing, and matters affecting the stability or safety of the building rendered necessary by the lapse of time, and not arising from wilful negligence or any act of omission or commission on the part of the Incumbent, shall be borne by the Parish.

4. When there is more than one congregation in a Parish it shall be the duty of each congregation to bear its proper share of the expense of repairs or improvements to the parsonage house, outbuildings, fences, etc.

5. All questions arising between an Incumbent and his parishioners with respect to the repairs of the parsonage house, etc., shall be determined by a Commission, to be appointed by the Bishop, on application of either party, and the expenses of the Commission shall be defrayed by the party against whom the decision shall be given, or otherwise, as the Commission may determine, subject to appeal to the Synod.

6. The word "Incumbent" in this Canon shall be held to signify the Rector, or Vicar, or Missionary, or other Clergyman in charge of any Parish or Missionary District.

CANON VII.

Patronage.

1. On the vacancy of any Parish, the appointment shall rest with the Bishop.

2. Where less than half the income is provided by the Parish, the Bishop shall appoint unconditionally.

3. Where half the income is provided by the Parish, the Bishop shall consult with the Church Committee before making the appointment.

4. And where the whole income is derived from the Parish, the Bishop shall not appoint without securing the consent

of a majority of the Church Committee and resident Lay Delegates.

CANON VIII.

Burial Grounds.

1. The charges payable for burial plots, and on breaking the ground in Church burial grounds, for the purpose of burying the dead, and all matters of the like nature therewith connected, shall be regulated by the Vestry of each Church.

2. It shall be in the power of the members of such Vestry at Vestry meetings to make by-laws for the regulation of their proceedings, and for the management of the funds of the burial ground itself, to which they belong, provided the same are not repugnant to the Constitution and Canons of this Synod of the Church of England in the Diocese of New Westminster.

CANON IX.

Marriage.

1. Whereas the Table of Prohibited Degrees put forth in the year of our Lord 1563, is founded upon Holy Scripture, and has the authority of the whole Church, therefore it shall be unlawful for any Priest of the Diocese of New Westminster to solemnize a marriage contrary to the prohibitions expressed in the said Table, and it shall be the duty of every Parish Priest to have the said Table conspicuously exposed to view within his church or the precincts thereof, and to use all faithful diligence for avoiding the scandal and sacrilege of using the office of Holy Matrimony in the case of parties related within the said Prohibited Degrees.

2. Whereas it is declared in the office of Holy Matrimony and in Holy Scripture, that it shall not be lawful to put asunder those whom God by Matrimony hath made one, therefore it shall be unlawful for any Priest of the Diocese of New Westminster to use the office of Holy Matrimony in the case of any man or woman having a divorced wife or husband still alive.

3. Whereas the Book of Common Prayer provides for marriage only after the publication of the banns, therefore it shall be the duty of every Parish Priest to impress upon his parishioners their obligation to comply with the requirements of the said Book of Common Prayer in this respect, and to discourage the practice of appealing to the civil power for a marriage license.

4. Wherever there is a Parish Church, or building set apart for public worship of the Church, the marriage shall be solemnized therein, provided that the Bishop, for such causes as shall seem to him sufficient, may grant a special license for the solemnization of a marriage elsewhere, and provided also that where either or both of the parties reside at a greater distance than five miles from any Church, it shall be lawful to solemnize their marriage elsewhere. Provided further, that in urgent cases, where reference to the Bishop is practically impossible, the Clergyman shall act at his own discretion, and forthwith report the circumstance to the Bishop.

5. No Clergyman being in Deacon's Orders only, shall solemnize a marriage in this Diocese.

CANON X.

Canon on Discipline.

WHEREAS the Church has had power of discipline over her members (a power conferred by Christ Himself) and:—

WHEREAS the exercise of this power may in some respects be called in question, owing to the difficulty of deciding what portion of the ecclestial laws of England is or is not in force in this Province, and :—

WHEREAS it is desirable that the members of the Church of England, in the Diocese of New Westminster, should, according to the Constitution of the Synod of the said Diocese, mutually pledge themselves to "The promotion of the discipline of the members thereof, and to the inculcation and maintenance of sound doctrine and true religion

in the Diocese, to the glory of Almighty God, and the edifying and increase of the Church of Christ." Be it therefore enacted:—

1. The Court for the trial of ecclesiastical offences in this Diocese shall, in all cases involving doctrine, consist of the Bishop, assisted by his legal assessor and two priests, of at least three years' standing in the Diocese, or having been at least ten years in priests' orders; and in all cases not involving doctrine, of the Bishop, assisted by his legal assessor and two priests, qualified as aforesaid, and two laymen, such laymen to be communicants of at least three years' standing in the Diocese, and of the age of twenty-six years or upwards. The Court shall be a Court of Record, that is to say, it shall possess a seal, and the charge, with the names of accuser and accused, the evidence, and the opinions of the Bishop and the assistant clergy or laymen, and the judgment pronounced shall be recorded in writing and preserved.

2. The Synod shall, from year to year at its annual meetings, select three priests and three laymen, competent according to the preceding section, from among whom on the occasion of any trial the Bishop shall draw by ballot the members of the Court, and in case of a trial of a charge involving doctrine, such assistant priests so selected and drawn shall, at the conclusion of the hearing, deliver their opinions as to the facts, and after the assistant priests shall have found on the facts, the Bishop shall decide on the points of doctrine, and forthwith deliver judgment, subject, however, to all rights of appeal reserved in this Canon; and in the case of a trial not involving doctrine, after the hearing the members of the Court may consult privately together, and if they be not unanimous then the trial shall proceed no further; but the accused shall be liable to be charged again with the same offence, and re-tried if within six months any further evidence be forthcoming, and if, by the finding of the priests in cases involving doctrine, or by the unanimous decision of the Court in all other cases, the accused shall be found guilty, then shall the Bishop (after consultation with his assistants in cases involving doctrine) pro-

ceed to pronounce sentence. Provided, that if by reason of death or other disability, the numbers of the priests or laymen selected by the Synod to sit with the Bishop at the hearing of cases be reduced during any year to less than two priests or two laymen, the Executive Committee shall have power to select other persons ; properly qualified to fill the vacancies until the next meeting of the Synod. Provided, further, that if, by the sentence of any temporal Court, to be proved by an office copy of the judgment of such Court, any person be found guilty of an offence (not involving doctrine) mentioned in Clause 20 of this Canon, the Bishop may, without taking any further evidence, after citing such person before him, proceed to pass sentence upon him in the same manner as if he had been tried and found guilty according to the provisions of this Canon.

3. On the opening of Court each of the assistant priests, or laymen, shall openly make a solemn declaration in the presence of the Bishop, that he will, according to the best of his knowledge, skill and judgment, truly and faithfully, and without partiality or favor, hear and determine the matter to be tried, according to the evidence, which declaration shall be entered in the minutes of proceedings.

4. The Bishop shall appoint from among the members of the Church in his Diocese, some layman learned in the law of the degree of barrister to the office of legal assessor, whose duties shall be as follows: To assist the Bishop with advice at the hearing of cases in the Bishop's Court appointed by this Canon; and the appointment of legal assessor shall be made by faculty under the Bishop's hand and corporate seal, and shall be revocable at the Bishop's pleasure.

5. The Registrar of the Diocese shall act as Registrar of the Court, and his duties in that behalf shall be as follows, viz.: To keep a book to be called the Minutes of Court, in which shall be inscribed the names of accuser and accused, the date and nature of the charge, date of hearing, and names of Bishop presiding and assistants at hearing, names of wit-

nesses, and verdict and judgment pronounced, together with the fact of an appeal having been granted or not, and all other matters connected with the making and hearing of the charge.

6. A second book shall be kept by the Bishop, in which he shall record, or cause to be recorded at the time of trial, the name and nature of case, the names of the witnesses, together with their evidence, and the final judgment pronounced.

7. No charge against any clergyman or layman of the Diocese shall be made except in writing to the Bishop, and such charge shall be in Form "A," appended hereto. Provided, that at the hearing of the cause any witness may be heard, although his name be not included in the list endorsed in such charge; and no charge shall be brought, neither shall any office be held as legal assessor or as priest or lay assistant at the hearing under this Canon by any person who has not signed the Declaration of Electors, and the Declaration of Submission to the Synod.

8. Every charge must be accompanied by a marked cheque, payable to the Registrar of the Diocese, for the amount of \$100, or the sum of \$100, together with a bond to the approval of the Registrar to pay such amount of taxed costs as shall be in excess of the aforesaid deposit of \$100 in event of the charge being dismissed with costs, and such Bond shall be in Form "E," appended hereto; and in the event of the charge being heard and dismissed with costs, the amount of such cheque or deposit, or so much thereof as may be taxed, shall be paid to the accused or his agent or attorney, to reimburse him for actual expenses incurred in answering such charge; and in the event of such taxed costs exceeding the amount of \$100, such excess may, if unpaid after the expiration of one month from the presentation of such taxed bill to the party liable, or his agent or attorney in the cause, be sued for in the civil courts, on the said Bond. But in the event of the charge being proved in whole or in part, such deposit, or a proportionate part thereof, to be fixed by the Court, shall be restored to the accuser.

9. No charge shall be brought under this Canon unless within one year from the date of commission of the alleged offence.

10. Accompanying the charge the accuser shall send a written undertaking to abide by the decision of the Court, which may be in Form "B," appended hereto.

11. An accusation, inferring heresy or false doctrine, must be signed by three or more male communicants of twenty-one years of age or upwards. An accusation inferring any charge, saving only heresy or false doctrine, may be brought by one communicant of twenty-one years of age or upwards.

12. The Bishop may at all times, without any formal charge having been made, cause to be summoned and tried any member of his flock, lay or clerical, whom he may have reason to suspect of having committed an offence, after having first, however, issued a Commission of Inquiry under Section 15 of this Canon, and deposited an undertaking as to costs in writing as provided in Section 8 with the Registrar; and, in such cases, if the matter come to trial, the Bishop shall appoint a Commissary who shall preside in his stead at the trial or hearing.

13. Any charge to be preferred against the Bishop shall be forwarded to the Dean of the Diocese, and if the Dean be absent or there be no Dean, then to the Senior Archdeacon, and such Dean or Archdeacon shall forward such charge to the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province, and if there be no Metropolitan, then to the Senior Bishop of the Church in the civil province of British Columbia. Or, if the accused be Metropolitan or Senior Bishop, then to the next in seniority, who shall lay the charge before the Court of Appeal hereinafter provided. And no charge against the Bishop shall be preferred unless at least three priests or five lay communicants concur in bringing the charge, or a proportionate number of each, that is to say, at least one priest and three qualified laymen. or two priests and two qualified laymen.

14. If the accusation shall be brought against or shall affect the Bishop's legal assessor, or the Registrar, the Bishop

shall appoint some other person qualified to the position, who shall, *pro tem.*, enact the duties of the officer charged or affected.

15. Upon the receipt of any charge, the Bishop if he deem it to be a matter of sufficient importance shall, in the first instance, refer it to a Commission of Inquiry, consisting of two priests and one layman, if the accused be a priest, and two laymen and one priest, if the accused be a layman; such Commissioners to be selected by the Bishop, to make inquiry into the grounds of such accusation; and such Commission shall report to the Bishop the result of such inquiry within three months after the date of the issue of the Commission.

Provided, that the Clergy and Laity nominated by the Synod to sit in the Ecclesiastical Court, shall be ineligible for appointment on the Commission of Inquiry.

16. In accord with the report of the Commission of Inquiry, the Bishop shall proceed to the hearing of the cause or not.

17. If the accused acknowledge the charge, and accuser and accused consent, the Bishop may pronounce judgment forthwith.

18. If it be decided that the cause be heard the Bishop shall give notice thereof through the Registrar to the accuser and accused, and such notices shall state the time and place of hearing of said charge, and may be in Forms "C" and "D" respectively, appended hereto; and the Bishop shall further cause to be served upon, or shall send by post to the accused, a copy of the charge as found by the Commission of Inquiry.

Provided, that if it shall appear to the Bishop that scandal is likely to arise from the party accused (being a cleric) continuing to perform services of the Church, or (being a layman) continuing to present himself for Holy Communion, then the Bishop may cause a notice to be served on such cleric or layman, inhibiting him in the one instance from performing any service of the Church, and in the other instance warning him to refrain from presenting himself for Holy Communion, *pendente lite*.

19. The Bishop and his legal assessor shall draw up or cause to be drawn up, rules for the procedure in the Bishop's Court appointed by this Canon, and a tariff of costs and expenses to be allowed as between the parties in any case; and such rules and tariff may from time to time be amended as the Bishop and his legal assessor shall see fit; but all such rules and tariff and every such amendment must be presented to the Synod of the Diocese at their next sitting after the drawing of such rules or the making of such amendment, for their confirmation.

20. The following shall be deemed to be ecclesiastical offences, triable in the Court established by this Canon, the commission of any of which, when proved, shall be sufficient to justify the infliction of the various penalties afterwards set forth:—

I.—Offences of the Laity.

Schism; that is, seceding or withdrawing from the Communion of the Church.

Immorality.

Conduct causing scandal.

Negligence in performance of official duties.

Impugning the formularies of the Church.

Contempt of Court.

II.—Offences of the Clergy.

False doctrine, heresy or schism.

Immorality.

Conduct causing scandal.

Offences against the lawful authority of the Ordinary.

Neglect of duty.

Contempt of Court.

The penalties which may be imposed, on proof of any of the foregoing offences, shall be as follows:—

I.—Penalties Applicable to Laity.

Admonition.

Penance.

Suspension *ab ingressu ecclesiae*.

Excommunication.

II.—Penalties Applicable to Clergy.

Admonition.

Penance.

Suspension.

Sequestration.

Withdrawal of license.

Deprivation.

Excommunication.

Degradation.

21. The Bishop may, at any time, grant a new trial upon such terms as to costs as he shall see fit.

22. Should any person consider himself aggrieved by any decision arrived at in the Bishop's Court, he may, within thirty days from the pronouncing of such decision, give to the other party, and lodge with the Registrar of the Court, notice of appeal, in writing, stating precisely the ground of appeal. If no notice of appeal be given by either party within such limit of thirty days, such right of appeal shall be considered to have lapsed.

23. In case of an appeal, the appellant shall also deposit with the Registrar, within the said limit of thirty days the sum of \$100, or such larger sum as the Registrar shall consider sufficient. If such appeal shall be sustained, such sum shall be returned to the appellant, but, in the event of the appeal being dismissed with costs, such sum, or so much thereof as may be taxed, shall be applied to pay the respondent's costs of appeal.

24. The Court of Appeal, except in cases involving doctrine, shall consist of the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province, or if there be no Ecclesiastical Province, then the Senior Bishop of the Church in the civil province of British Columbia; always provided, that if such Senior Bishop, as aforesaid, be the Bishop from whose decision the appeal lies, then the appeal shall lie to the next in seniority, together with, in each instance, two judges, either of the Supreme or County Court of the Province, or one judge of the Supreme and one of the County Court being Communicants of the Church. Such judges to be selected by the Senior Bishop, aforesaid; and, in case of failure for any reason by said Senior Bishop to obtain judges of the Supreme or County Courts of the Province to sit with him on the Court of Appeal, then he may make selection of two barristers of seven years' standing in the Province, being members of the Church of England, and communicants. But in all cases involving Doctrine or Worship, appeal shall be to the Supreme Court of Appeal of the Church of England in Canada.

25. The judgment of the Court shall in all cases be that of the majority.

Schedule

FORM "A."

Charge.

We, (or, I, as the case may be) of
 communicant in
 the Parish of
 and of
 communicant in the Parish of
 and of Communicant
 in the Parish of members of the

Church of England, and having duly signed the Declaration of Electors and the Declaration of Submission, as called for by Section IV. of the Constitution of the Synod and Section 7 of the Canon for appointing a Court to try ecclesiastical offences, do hereby charge in that he has committed the offence hereinafter set forth; that is to say (*here state offence, with particulars and date*); and we desire that Your Lordship will forthwith cause an inquiry to be made into these charges, to which inquiry we engage to render every assistance; and we solemnly declare that we believe the charges to be substantially true.

(Signed)

.....

Endorsements (to Form "A.")

1. We enclose to the Registrar of the Diocese the sum of \$100 as required under Section 8 of the Canon appointing a court to try ecclesiastical offences.

(Signed)

.....

2. I (or we) hereby certify that.....and andare respectively communicants in the Parishes as above referred to.

(To be signed by the Rectors of the respective Parishes, or, if any of them be implicated in the charge, then by two Churchwardens or two Lay Delegates of the Parish.)

3. List of witnesses proposed to be called.

FORM "B."

Submission to Court.

We (or I) of and
of and of makers
of the annexed charge against
of hereby agree that if an inquiry be
granted into the matters of our charge, as desired therein, that
we each and severally will abide by the decision of the Court
competent to try the matter under the Canon for appointing a
Court to try ecclesiastical offences, whatever the result of such
inquiry may be, subject, however, to our due right of appeal to
the Court of appeal appointed by the said Canon.

(Signed)

.....
.....
.....

Witness.....

FORM "C."

Notice to Accusers.

Take notice that at a sitting of the Bishop's Court, to be
holden at on the day of
..... at in the noon,
the said Court will inquire into the several matters and charges
laid by you against
and you are hereby required to attend such Court with your
witnesses, to prosecute such charge under pain of forfeiture of
the \$100 paid by you into the Registrar's hands.

(Signed)

[L.S.]

.....

Registrar.

FORM "D."

Summons to Accused.

Whereas and
 have laid a charge against you in the Bishop's Court of this
 Diocese, a copy of which charge, as found by the Committee of
 Inquiry to whom it was referred, is hereunto annexed, marked
 "A." And whereas the Bishop has determined to hear and
 try the charges set forth against you at the Bishop's Court, to
 be holden at on the day of
 at the hour of in the noon,
 you are hereby summoned and required to attend and defend
 yourself against the said charges laid against you, and take
 notice that if you fail to so attend, the trial may proceed, and
 judgment be given against you in your absence.

(Signed)

[L.S.]

.....
 Registrar.

To be served at least fourteen days before the hearing.

FORM "E."

Undertaking to pay costs.

Know all men by these presents, that we
 of and of are
 jointly and severally bound unto (the accused)
 his attorney, executors and administrators, in the sum of \$....
 (.....dollars), for which sum to be well and
 truly paid, we bind ourselves and each and every of us, and
 each and every of our heirs, executors, and administrators,
 firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals this
 day of A.D. 1....

.....

Whereas the above named.....have entered
a charge in the Ecclesiastical Court of the Diocese of New
Westminster against the above

The condition of this obligation is such that if the said
charge be sustained, or if the said charge be dismissed if the
said do forthwith pay all costs,
charges, sums or expenses which the said Court or its proper
office may adjudge against him for the full costs and expenses
of the said then this bond to be
void; otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

FORM "F."

Notice by Commissioners of Time and Place at Which Pro-
liminary Inquiry Will Be Held.

Take notice that we, having been duly appointed a Com-
mission of Inquiry by the Lord Bishop of New Westminster,
under his seal, to inquire into a certain charge (or charges)
brought against you by and
..... a copy of which is hereunto annexed,
marked "A," will, on the day of
..... A. D 1...., at the hour
of..... in the..... noon, duly proceed to enter
into such inquiry, and you are hereby requested to be present.
(Signed)

.....
.....
.....
Commissioners.

INTERPRETATION.

In construing this Canon, unless it be otherwise provided,

or there be something in the context to indicate a different meaning, the word "shall" shall be understood as imperative; the word "may" as permissive.

"Herein" shall mean the whole Canon, not any particular section.

Where the singular is used it may be interpreted as the plural, or *vice versa*, if necessary.

"Offence" shall mean any act that may be charged against any person under the section defining offences of this Canon.

This Canon may be cited for all purposes as the Canon on Discipline, New Westminster Diocese.

CANON XI.

Bishopric Endowment.

1. The Synod shall act as Trustee for a Fund to be invested for the purpose of endowing the See of New Westminster.

2. Such fund shall consist of all moneys entrusted to the Synod for the Bishopric Endowment Fund, and of all interest derived from the investment thereof.

3. The Executive Committee shall from time to time invest all moneys belonging to the Bishopric Endowment Fund in the name of the Synod as Trustee.

4. In the investment of any funds under this Canon, the Executive Committee shall in all cases act under Sub-Section 6 of the Canon on Finance.

CANON XII.

Endowment of Parishes and Missionary Districts.

1. The Synod shall act as Trustee for any funds which may be entrusted or bequeathed to it for the endowment of any Parish or Parishes, or any Missionary District or Districts in the Diocese.

2. Such funds shall be divided into two classes: (1) General Parochial Endowment Fund; (2) Special Parochial Endowment Funds.

3. The General Parochial Endowment Fund shall be invested by the Executive Committee from time to time, as the same comes into the hands of the Synod; and the annual income derived therefrom shall be added to the General Diocesan Fund and be paid out and expended by the Executive Committee for general parochial purposes.

4. The Special Parochial Endowment Funds entrusted to the Synod for investment shall be invested in the name of the Synod for the benefit of such special Parishes and Missionary Districts as shall be specified by the donor or settler of such fund; and the income derived therefrom shall be collected by the Executive Committee, and paid out by them to such special purposes as are so defined.

5. In the investment of any funds under this Canon, the Executive Committee shall in all cases act under Sub-Section 6 of the Canon on Finance.

CANON XIII.

Clergy Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

1. There shall be in connection with the Diocese of New Westminster a Special Fund to be called "The Clergy Widows' and Orphans' Fund," the interest of which shall be applied to the assistance of the families of deceased clergymen and to no other purpose.

2. The Fund shall be created, sustained and augmented by subscriptions, donations, legacies, bequests and other contributions for this special purpose, and by adding thereto the interest and income thereof until a call is made upon it as hereinafter set out.

3. The widow and children of every Licensed Clergyman in this Diocese shall be entitled to the benefits of the Fund when such Clergyman shall have complied with the requirements of this Canon.

4. Upon application to the Executive Committee a certificate shall be issued to any Licensed Clergyman who shall make application therefor, and upon payment of his first year's subscription.

5. To entitle any such Clergyman to such certificate he shall pay an annual subscription of five dollars (\$5.00) and shall take up an annual collection, in aid of the Fund, in at least one church under his charge.

6. All subscriptions and collections shall become due on the first day of January in each year, and must be paid to the Treasurer of the Synod within thirty days. Should this rule not be complied with, the certificate shall be cancelled, but a new certificate may be issued upon such terms as the Executive Committee shall see fit to impose.

7. Upon the death of any Clergyman holding any such certificate, the interest and income derived from such Fund shall be distributed as follows:—

- [a] In the first place, to the widow or widows of such deceased clergyman or clergymen, share and share alike, until each widow shall have received a pension of \$300 a year.
- [b] After such pension or pensions of \$300 per annum are paid, then any surplus to be paid for the support and maintenance of all children of such clergyman or clergymen, share and share alike, until such pensions to each of such children amounts to \$25 per annum or until such child or children attain the age of eighteen years.
- [c] Should any such clergyman die, leaving no widow, but a child or children under the age of eighteen years, such child or children shall be entitled to have the same pension as their mother would have been entitled to.
- [d] Should any such widow die, leaving any child or children surviving her under eighteen years of age, such child or children shall be entitled to have their mother's

pension paid to them until they attain the age of eighteen years.

[c] All pensions shall cease.—in the case of widows, upon their marrying again ; and in the case of children upon their attaining the age of eighteen years.

8. The principal of such Fund shall be invested in the name of the Synod in trust for the purposes of this Canon, and no part of it shall be appropriated for the purpose of pensions. Provided also that when and after the invested capital of the Clergy Widows' and Orphans' Fund shall have reached \$1500, it shall be legal for the Executive Committee to apply yearly for the purpose of of pension or pensions under this Canon, an amount not exceeding one-half of the annual receipts of this fund, in addition to the nterest and incme derived from the investment of the capital thereof.

9. In making investments of these funds, the rule contained in Section 6 of the Canon on Finance shall be strictly complied with.

10. Arrangements may be made by the Executive Committee of this Diocese to enter beneficiaries of this fund upon similar funds in other Canadian Dioceses; and also to enter upon this fund the beneficiaries of other Canadian Dioceses. The collections taken in each Parish for this fund may be apportioned as follows: Five dollars to pay the Incumbent's annual subscription and the balance to be paid into the fund.

CANON XIV.

Superannuation Fund.

1. There shall be a Fund, to be called the "Superannuation Fund," the object of which shall be to make provision for such Clergy of the Diocese of New Westminster as are incapacitated through mental or bodily infirmity from the active work of the ministry.

2. This Fund shall consist of a capital of at least \$3000,—to be derived from the following sources:—

- [a] Annual subscriptions of the clergy.
- [b] Parochial assessments.
- [c] Voluntary Church offertories.
- [d] Donations, legacies and grants.
- [e] Interest from invested funds.

3. No grant shall be made from this Fund until a capital of over \$3000 has been obtained; nor shall any grant be made which shall reduce the capital sum below \$3000.

4. The whole management of the Fund shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee, and the approval of the Bishop shall be required in the case of every grant.

5. A Clergyman, to qualify for an annuity, must have been licensed at least ten years in the Diocese of New Westminster, must have been a subscriber to the fund from its initiation if licensed in the Diocese at the time, and must have paid ten years' subscriptions, or an equivalent amount before claiming the benefit of the Fund.

6. The annual subscription from each Licensed Clergyman of the Diocese shall be compulsory and shall be \$5; but no subscription shall be required from Clergy over sixty years of age save for the purposes of Rule 5. All payments shall be made before December 31st of each year.

7. Parishes shall be assessed in support of this Fund at the rate of one per cent. on the amount received by the Clergyman as stipend for the previous year. Notice of the assessment shall be sent from the Executive Committee; and the said assessment shall be paid on or before the opening of the Synod in each year.

8. Mutual arrangements may be made by the Executive Committee of the Diocese with other Canadian Dioceses to enter Clergy from the Diocese of New Westminster on their Funds, and to enter their Clergy on the Funds of this Diocese.

9. After the passing of this Canon, no Clergyman who is not already licensed in the Diocese shall be admitted to the

benefit of the Fund if he be over 55 years of age at the time of his admission into the Diocese, save in such cases as may be allowed by the Executive Committee under Rule 8.

10. In making investments of these Funds, the rule contained in Section 6 of the Canon of Finance shall be strictly complied with.

CANON XV.

"On the Authority of the General Synod."

"Whereas, in the city of Toronto, in the year of our Lord 1893, the Bishops of the Church of England in Canada holding Sees, or executing by due authority the Episcopate as Assistant or Missionary Bishops therein; and Delegates, chosen from the Clergy and Laity of the said Church, organized a General Synod as the Supreme Governing Body of the Church in the Dominion, limited by the following fundamental principle:— 'We declare that the General Synod, when formed, does not intend to and shall not take away from or interfere with any rights, powers or jurisdiction of any Diocesan Synod within its own territorial limits, as now held or exercised by such Diocesan Synods'; limited further by Section 6 of the Basis of Constitution:— 'Nothing in this Constitution shall affect any Canons or Enactments of any Provincial or Diocesan Synods now in force'; and also by Section 4:— 'That no Canons or Resolutions of a coercive character, or involving penalties or disabilities, shall be operative in any Ecclesiastical Province, until accepted by the Synod of such Province or Diocese.'

Now, therefore, we, the Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster, accept as the Supreme Governing Body, subject to the above limitations, the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada, with its fundamental principles, Basis of Constitution and Constitution, reserving for it all the objects which in the Basis of Constitution it has declared to be within its jurisdiction."

CANON XVI.

"On Renunciation of the Ministry."

"If any Priest or Deacon, for known causes not affecting his moral character, shall signify in writing to the Bishop of the Diocese, his renunciation of the Ministry of the Church of England in Canada, the Bishop shall in the exercise of his discretion either (I.) proceed to depose such person from the Ministry in the presence of at least two Priests of the Diocese, and shall cause such deposition and the cause leading to it to be recorded and forwarded to the other Bishops of the Church of England in Canada; or (II.)—Shall suspend such person from the exercise of his ministry for six months, in order to give him opportunity for reconsideration and repentance; and at the end of the six months may restore him to his position in the ministry, provided that it be certified in writing by three beneficed Priests of the Diocese that the said person has abstained from the exercise of his ministry, has lived a Godly and pious life, and that the reason which led to his renunciation no longer holds; and if at the expiration of the six months the reason still holds, the Bishop shall then in the exercise of his discretion proceed to depose according to Section (I.) above."

Rules of Order.

1. On the first day, after prayer—according to a form authorized by the Bishop—for the Divine guidance and blessing, the Clerical Secretary of the Synod shall call the roll of the Licensed Clergy and Diocesan Officials, which shall be furnished by the Bishop, and the Lay Secretary shall then call over the names of the places entitled to send representatives; and the certificates of the representatives, having been presented, shall be referred to a Committee appointed by the Bishop, and, on the satisfactory report of such Committee, their names shall be recorded, and they shall be entitled to take their places as members of the Synod.

2. The order of general business after prayers on each day shall be as follows:—

- A. Calling the rolls.
- B. Reading and confirming the minutes of the previous meeting.
- C. Presenting, receiving, and disposing of memorials, petitions and correspondence.
- D. Presenting, receiving and disposing of reports of Committees.
- E. Giving notices of motion, which must be in writing.
- F. Taking up unfinished business.
- G. Appointing Standing Committees.
- H. New business and consideration of motions.

- (a) Special committees may be appointed at any time.
- (b) An address from the Bishop shall be in order at any time.
- (c) Notices of motion given by members of the Synod for consideration at a subsequent meeting shall be read at such meeting and may be taken up by any member present in the same manner as if he himself had given the notice.

3. When the Bishop, or other person presiding, has taken the Chair, no other member shall continue standing.

4. When any member is about to speak, he shall rise and address the Chair.

5. No motion or amendment shall be considered as before the Synod (excepting such as may be proposed by the Bishop or Committees) unless seconded and reduced to writing.

6. No member, save the mover of a resolution, who is entitled to reply, shall speak more than once on the same question, except on a point of order, or in explanation, when he shall not introduce new matter.

7. When a question is under consideration, no other motion shall be received, unless to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, or to amend; and motions for these purposes shall have precedence in the order here named.

8. Motions to adjourn, or to lay on the table, shall be decided without debate.

9. When a motion is before the Synod, it shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the Synod.

10. Each member shall have the right, except when a member is speaking, to require that the motion or amendment under discussion be read for his information.

11. A member, called to order whilst speaking, shall sit down until the point of order has been settled.

12. All questions of order shall be decided by the Chair, subject to an appeal to the Synod, on the request of three members.
13. When a proposed amendment to a motion is under consideration, a motion to amend the same may be made, but no after amendment to such second amendment shall be in order; yet a substitute to the whole matter may be proposed and received, provided it deals directly with the subject in hand.
14. All amendments to any question or amendment shall be decided before the question or motion on which they arise is put.
15. In voting, those who vote in the affirmative shall first rise, and then those who vote in the negative; and, if required by three members, the yeas and nays shall be recorded.
16. A question being once determined shall not again be brought into discussion in the same session without the special sanction of the Chair.
17. All Special Committees shall be appointed by the Bishop, unless appointed by a resolution of the Synod; and the names of the members shall be publicly announced during a sitting of the Synod.
18. The reports of Committees shall be in writing, signed by the members of the Committee, or a majority thereof, and if such reports shall recommend any action, or contain any expression of opinion, they shall be accompanied by a resolution for the action of the Synod thereon.
19. No member of the Synod shall leave the room during a sitting of the Synod without permission from the Chair.
20. Any proposed Canon shall be introduced upon motion for leave, specifying the title of the same; or upon motion to appoint a Committee to prepare and bring it in.

21. When any proposed alteration of Constitution, or new Canon, or amendment of existing Canon, or new or amended Rule of Order, is presented by a member, or by a Committee pursuant to an order of the Synod, the question that it be now read a first time shall be decided without amendment or debate.

22. An alteration of the Constitution, or a new or amended Canon or Rule of Order, after being read once—or, if printed and circulated, taken as read—shall be committed for discussion or amendment, and shall then be reported to the Synod.

23. No Rule of Order shall be suspended except by a two-thirds vote of the Synod, and the assent of the Bishop (or his Commissary).

